

Newark Eagles Baseball Club

Newark New Jersey

NEWARK N.J.—Willie Wells, the shortstop genius, turned down \$6000 last week from the government of Mexico.

The \$6000 was offered him to come down there and play baseball this season but Wells decided he is going to stay right here in Newark and thrill the fans with another season's fancy shortstop plays. Accordingly he signed the Eagle contract last week in the Eagles office as Mrs. Effa Manley, Eagle boss looked on.

"The government has allowed baseball to carry on," Wells commented, "for the morale of workers on the home front. It would not be very patriotic of me to play ball this year anywhere but on the home front. Besides I want to be with the Eagles. The Manleys have been O.K. with me"

Last month Mexico sent Ramus Pedrueza, agent

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of the Mexican Government Tourists Bureau in New York to Draft Board 21 in Newark where both Wells and Raymond Dandridge are registered. Dandridge, a pre Pearl Harbor father, is only 30 years of age and is the Eagles starring second baseman. He is classified 2B.

Pedruenza wanted Board 21 to release both men to travel to Mexico but succeeded only in winning permission to take Wells out of the country. But Wells decided after all he didn't want to go.

Dandridge was not permitted to leave the country because he is more likely to be called in the draft than Wells. However, Dandridge was not exactly disappointed as he prefers to be on the Eagles anyhow.

With Wells at short, Pierson on first, Dandridge on second and Watkins on third, the Eagles will this season offer an infield second to none in the NNL.

The Manley's have overcome seemingly insurmountable difficulties in preparation for opening in May, due to the draft and war work problems. The team will this season be probably able to secure new uniforms out of the priority situation which denied them such uniforms last season. Limited travel by bus will also be permitted, Mrs. Manley revealed.